

PORTABLE ELECTRONIC SYSTEM HAVING MULTIPLE DISPLAY MODES FOR RE-ORIENTING THE DISPLAY OF DATA ON A DISPLAY SCREEN

5    ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

An electronic system includes an electronic display device and a communication port. Each display mode corresponds to a particular position of the communication port relative to a line of sight of a user. In one embodiment, the communication port is an infrared communication port. Each display mode corresponds to a particular display orientation. The electronic display device displays visual data in the particular display orientation corresponding to the display mode of the electronic system. In one embodiment, the electronic system is a palmtop computer system such as a personal digital assistant. A user can selectively operate the electronic system in any one of the multiple display modes for communication with a second electronic system via the communication port. The user positions the electronic system such that the communication port is located in a position facilitating communication with the second electronic system via the communication port. The user selects a particular display mode such that to align the user's line of sight with the display orientation of the electronic display device. In one embodiment, the electronic system includes one or more display mode controls for enabling the user to select a particular display mode. In a second embodiment, the electronic system includes a display re-orientation selector for enabling the user to select a particular display mode. The display re-orientation selector is implemented as a graphical button displayed on the electronic display device.

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